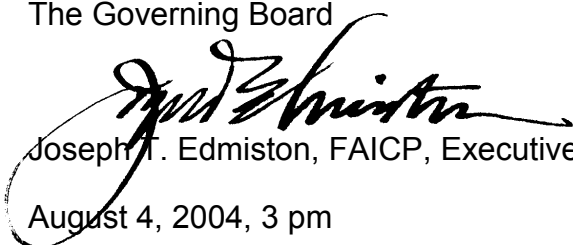


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## MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

FROM:  Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP, Executive Officer

DATE: August 4, 2004, 3 pm

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item IX: Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of a sewer line easement to the City of Los Angeles across the Trebek Donation parcel between Nichols Canyon Road and Astral Drive in exchange for park improvements and abandonment of an existing easement, Nichols Canyon, Los Angeles**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing a grant of a sewer line easement to the City of Los Angeles across the Nichols Canyon Trebek donation parcel between Nichols Canyon Road and Astral Drive in exchange for park improvements and abandonment of an existing easement.

Background: A 1950's above and below-ground sewer pipe across the MRCA's Nichols Canyon 68-acre Trebek donation parcel is leaking. The City of Los Angeles faces significant penalties if it does not repair the leaks or replace the system in short order. Department of Public Works staff took our staff onsite and showed how the preferred solution is to move the existing easement a short distance to the north. The new alignment would take the pipe out of drainages that inevitably cause damaging erosion around the supports. The proposed easement has been viewed by staff and is acceptable. The old easement would be abandoned.

All of the environmental review, legal and engineering work will be done by the City staff. To compensate the MRCA and to mitigate direct impacts to the parkland, staff has negotiated a set of conditions. The City will prepare plans to regrade an existing dirt road used as a neighborhood trail. The trail is deeply eroded and poorly designed, resulting in unnecessary sediment deposition on Nichols Canyon Road. Once the plans are approved the road, it will be graded to the MRCA's requirements including the installation of ungrouted, rock side drains and dissipaters. The City will also install an attractive new gate and fence at the trail entrance. The work will provide free maintenance to a rapidly deteriorating trail, improve recreational and

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operational functions, eliminate future damage from continual pipe repairs, and increase rainfall infiltration in an area upstream from the Nichols debris basin.